

EDITORIALS

A Plea for Youth

The local YMCA's campaign to raise \$12,000 for the extension of its work in this community opened this week with an appeal to you.

There is no need to recount to you, friends and neighbors, the accomplishments of your "Y" in providing for the spiritual, intellectual and physical needs of our young people. For more than a century this public-spirited organization has done a fine job. Its effective efforts in behalf of boys has placed it in the forefront of the forces of civic betterment.

The initials of the YMCA might well stand for Youth, Manliness, Character and Achievement. The YMCA begins with Youth, adds Manliness and Character and produces Achievement.

There is some danger that in the exciting whirl of world events and the multiplicity of public appeals, you may become momentarily indifferent when the YMCA asks for your personal aid.

This must not happen. In this great beautiful country of ours, nothing worthwhile in a community is accomplished without the concerted effort of all. A feeling of friendliness towards the "Y" and a vague awareness of its significance are not sufficient. Goodwill for this essential program must be implemented into actual pledges and donations.

It was a wise man who said that the only thing that you can keep is what you have given away. If we are to hope for a peaceful and bountiful world, we must all join hands and begin in our own neighborhood.

That puts it squarely up to you. It is your opportunity. It is your privilege. It is your very own personal contribution to a brighter and better tomorrow. Will you make it now?

Scouts Celebrating

Forty-five years ago Tuesday, Feb. 8, 1910, the Boy Scouts of America was chartered by Congress. Since that time, more than 22,750,000 boys and adults have participated in the program of Scouting, dedicated to fostering a love of God and country, and in emphasizing the brotherhood of man.

Basic Scout codes emphasize duty to country, respect for the flag, community service, and how to care for oneself and others.

Reverence, church attendance, and respect for the other fellow's beliefs are expected of the Scout. Playing, working, and learning together, Scouts quickly discover that a boy's courage, spirit, and skill is not dependent upon religion, creed, race, or his family's finances.

Through Scouting, we can be sure that today's Scouts will be tomorrow's best citizens, wise leaders in their communities, and in the nation.

That is why, as they celebrate their 45th anniversary, we pause to honor the Boy Scouts of America, and our own Scouts in Torrance. They are making a better world.

'Fighting Formula' For Peace

Whatever the cause, outcome or cost of the Costa Rica unpleasantness, it already has contributed an idea that might have some bearing on world peace.

It seems that President Jose Figueres of Costa Rica accused Anastasio Somoza, President of Nicaragua, of unleashing an attack on Costa Rica. Somoza's reply was a challenge to a personal duel, to settle the international dispute without involving the two peoples in bloody war. The Costa Rican president refused, saying, "He must be crazy." We are not so sure.

We commend to the United Nations Senor Somoza's modest proposal as a simple, inexpensive and humane method of solving international differences. In case of dispute, the heads of each Nation involved could meet in personal combat. No need for Universal Military Training . . . no huge armament expenditures . . . no ravaged cities and suffering citizens.

Suppose Somoza's unique suggestion is adopted. We have our next Presidential candidate: Rocky Marciano.



LAW IN ACTION

NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS IN WORLD TRADE

Have you ever thought how awkward and risky it would be for nations to trade with each other if they had to ship gold coin back and forth to pay for their goods?

Besides, there is not enough gold and silver above ground to make such trading possible. It is much simpler to trade negotiable instruments—using mail, telegraph, or cable. Negotiable instruments are papers—orders or promises to pay. With them we move most of the world's goods.

How do nations use negotiable papers? The same way you pay for a car by check or sign a note to buy a TV set.

An example: Suppose a merchant in Brazil orders cloth from an English weaver. The firm ships the cloth and the Brazilian merchant sends it an I.O.U. Later, England needs wheat from the United States. So she "pays" for it with the I.O.U. from Brazil. So we order col-

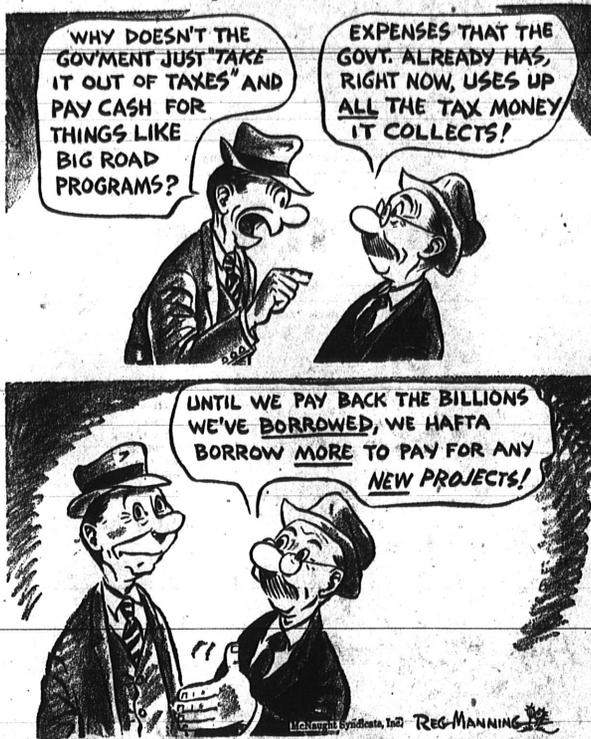
fee from Brazil and pay for it with the same piece of promissory paper. The Brazilian coffee grower then takes the paper to his bank and gets money. What does the bank do? The bank takes the paper to the Brazilian merchant who started the chain of events by buying English cloth. He pays the bank for the cloth and ends the deal.

No money has crossed the seas. Instead, goods and little pieces of paper have circulated. A simple idea—trading paper instead of coin—fosters most of the trade here and abroad.

Negotiable instruments have also fostered agencies which work to better relations among the nations. Trade treaties and world courts which interpret them, have created much international law. For world-wide exchange of goods rests upon good will and law.

Note: The State Bar of California offers this column for your information so that you may know more about how to act under our laws.

Why Borrow Money?



The SQUIRREL CAGE

By REID BUNDY

It is not fair to visit all the blame on Eve for Adam's fall. The most Eve did was to display Contributory . . . negligence.

Gene DeBra has an idea that might appeal to the sporting blood of Torrance motorists. He suggests that the city put handles and fruit wheels on the parking meters and let the motorist pull the handle when he puts in a penny to park. The meters could pay off about one each thousand pulls, giving someone a few minutes free parking at the curb and setting him up with parking meter pennies for months to come. Such a gimmick should take away some of the sting attached to clipping coppers in the slot to park.

Appointment of Georgi M. Malenkov as director of electrical power for the Soviet Union probably means, one way said, that he is the guy who will turn off all the lights after the big shots have gone home to bed at night. His "resignation" set a new precedent in Russia. He's the first guy in recent history to be demoted in Russia and still get a chance to read about it in Pravda.

When Sports Editor Dick Friend was asked by one of the minor sports coaches at Torrance High how he could find things to say with the varsity basketball team losing week after week, Friend replied, "Oh, I just talk about next week's games."

"The movies are going back to pie-tossing comedy. Looks like they might have waited until the world wasn't quite so hungry." — Greenville Piedmont.

INCOME TAX

(This is one of a series of articles on income tax changes. The articles are based on information provided by the American Institute of Accountants and the California Society of Certified Public Accountants.)

Many taxpayers cheat themselves on their personal exemptions. Of course, there are others who get into trouble by claiming too many exemptions—like the cowboy who claimed an exemption for his horse because he loved him like a brother. The rules for a taxpayer's own exemptions are the same this year as last year, but the new tax law has made it easier to get exemptions for dependents.

Here's how to count your exemptions (each one takes \$600 off your taxable income): One exemption for yourself, two if you are 65 or over, two if you are blind, three if you are both 65 and blind. The same applies to your husband or wife.

If your husband or wife died during 1954 you can file a joint return claiming the exemptions including those for age or blindness, to which the deceased would have been entitled at the time of death. Exemptions for Dependents

One exemption of \$600 can be taken for each person who fits the definition of a dependent. This \$600 is not doubled for age or blindness, as in the case of your personal exemption. To count for an exemption, the dependent must:

- 1. Have less than \$600 gross income for 1954 (except that under the new law this does not apply to your child if he is under 19 or is a full-time student).
- 2. Have received more than half his support from you. (New Law: Do not include scholarships in figuring total cost of support. The dependent may also qualify even though no one person furnished more than half of his support. If a group of persons who would otherwise be able to claim the dependent contributed more than half, any member of the group who contribu-

ted at least 10 per cent may claim the dependent if all others who contributed 10 per cent or more have signed a declaration that they will not claim the deduction.)

- 3. Not file a joint return with her husband (or his wife).
- 4. Be either a citizen of the U.S. or a resident of the U.S., Canada, Mexico, Canal Zone, Panama, or (in some cases) the Philippines.
- 5. Live with you (absence while attending school does not interfere) or be a close relative as defined in the tax instructions or be a cousin receiving institutional care for a mental or physical disability who lived with you before going to the institution.

Children and Disabled Dependents Don't forget that a baby born any time up to midnight December 31 counts as a full exemption.

A new feature this year is a deduction of as much as \$600 for care of a dependent while the bread-winner is working. This deduction is available to mothers, widowers, divorced and legally separated persons, who are allowed to deduct expenses up to \$600 for the care of a son, daughter, stepson or stepdaughter under 12 for any dependent who is mentally or physically incapacitated.

A working wife is entitled to this deduction if her husband is physically or mentally incapable of providing support. Where the husband is not disabled, the working wife may also take a deduction if a joint return is filed, except that the \$600 limit is reduced by the amount the couple's gross income exceeds \$4,500.

Additional Information Be sure to read the official instructions. You can also get help from the Internal Revenue Service, which urges you to consult only qualified advisers.

Next article: Tax Eased on Dividends and Retirement Income.

THINGS TO TALK ABOUT

BY FRANKLIN J. HENNE

Of the 398 job classifications in the air force in 1953, the WAF's could hold 326 of them. The 72 others were eligible to do the same things.

I FEEL LIKE A PINK!

SCIENTISTS SAY THAT ATOMIC ENERGY WILL MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO FLY THROUGH SPACE TO OTHER PLANETS BY THE YEAR 2000.

POWER PLANTS IN THE U.S. PRODUCE 7 PER CENT OF ALL ELECTRICITY GENERATED IN THE WORLD.

AFTER HOURS

By JOHN MORLEY

"I Believe . . . Sentence-Philosophies of 1955.

Editor's Note: By popular request, John Morley will present his "I Believe sentence philosophies" periodically as a regular feature of his column, "After Hours." They represent a partial preview of a new edition of his book, "I Believe," planned for publication upon his return in September from his 1955 trip around the world. Reproduction in whole or in part of "I Believe" is prohibited without permission of the author.

I BELIEVE I believe Russia and China are rapidly becoming a good place to be from.

I believe Europe is sending practically everything over here . . . new ocean liners, planes, diplomats, and heavy-weight boxers, tennis and golf players, socialist lecturers, movie stars . . . everything but money loaned since World War I.

I believe a non-civilized nation is one that has no war debts, no firing squads, no crooked diplomats, no atom bombs or poison gas.

I believe if things continue in the future as they have in the past in our so-called civilized world, it will be the "backward people" of Asia and Africa who will be sending the missionaries.

I believe there is a greater resemblance, than appears on the surface, between prayer meetings and peace conferences . . . the people who need them most least attend.

I believe what France needs most at this particular juncture is the well-known road and a good dose of sulphur and molasses.

I believe this can be said about the Red Chinese . . . they certainly aren't after the tourist trade next season.

I believe the Mexicans don't seem to treat their bulls any worse than they treat themselves.

OF ALL THINGS

By Robert B. Martin

"Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stay these Couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds."

—Horodotus, Greek Historian of the Messengers of Darius, King of Persia, 500 BC

Wonder if old time Londoners can recall Sarah Croates, inmate of Plomesgate Workhouse for half a century, who died at the age of 70? Buried with her was the only morsel of gladness that had come her way in all those years—a penny postal card, mailed by a friend.

Sarah Croates had no relatives. In 50 years she never had a visitor.

On that final day, when they asked her . . . did she have anything of value, whatsoever . . . she reached for that little postal card, pressed it to her faltering heart, and died.

Yes, Sarah Croates did have something of value. A penny postal card. And it was buried with her.

You fellows who deliver the mail, on those very warm days, or those cold days . . . the days when the rain is beating down . . . it's pretty tough. You get to wondering about this business of being a letter carrier. When someone's pouch takes a piece out of your pant leg, sure, who wouldn't be ready to give up?

But just suppose a few of you fell down on the job? Okay, okay, you'll admit you've almost fallen down at times . . . when you've had a cold, when that raise didn't come through . . . and the time that woman went into a tantrum

I believe Communist-Chou En Lai has as much influence with the Chinese people as the average American husband.

I believe it's the peculiarity of our times, when so many nations are preparing for a war which none of them claims it wants.

I believe an ocean can now be referred to in geography as a body of water entirely surrounded by trouble.

I believe that disarmament programs are intended to postpone the next war, until the last one is paid for.

I believe another way to describe Russian "progress" is to note that three of its exiles won Nobel prizes.

I believe in spite of the whiskey slogans, nothing can hold liquor as well as a bottle.

I believe facts become a lot of eye-wash, if treated out of relationship with life and human beings.

I believe with every new baby born there is ample proof that God never gets discouraged.

I believe it's not falling into the water that drowns a man . . . but in staying motionless.

I believe a nation can loan herself out of existence, as well as fight herself out of existence.

I believe religion is life . . . faith only the fuse.

I believe facts are the scarcest raw material in the world. I believe the State of Israel is the miracle of our time.

I believe if the Communists could concentrate on Groucho, they would in time trade him for Karl.

I believe middle age could well afford to start saving some good thoughts . . . as well as money.

I believe one of the most important impressions of my travels inside the "backward countries" around the world is that children still obey their parents.

I believe the love of liberty

is the love of others . . . the love of power is the love of ourselves

I believe that good judgment comes from experience and experience often comes from bad judgment

I believe a lot of people kill themselves to live

I believe if a doctor saves your life, any fee he charges is a pittance . . . if he kills you, any fee is an outrage.

I believe majority decisions are not right simply because they were rendered by majorities . . . Socrates was forced by majorities to drink the cup of hemlock . . . majorities burned John F. Kennedy at the stake . . . majorities forced Galileo to deny what his telescope told him.

I believe those who believe Communism will work among millions ought to check and see how it works on just a four-party line.

I believe if we knew as much about mental health as we do of physical health, an epidemic of hate would alarm us more than an epidemic of polio.

I believe genuine happiness is inexpensive . . . the fantastic prices we pay are for its limitations.

I believe no dollar will fall as low in value as some people will stoop to get it.

I believe if we were to select the most intelligent, imaginative, energetic, courageous, spiritual one-third of mankind, every race and creed would be represented.

Mail Box

Teachers Pleased

Editor: TORRANCE HERALD: Your excellent editorial of Jan. 24 in behalf of equal rights for teachers is very gratifying to the faculty at Halldale.

The boys and girls who will be citizens of tomorrow are indeed fortunate to have men such as you in a position to influence community thinking.

HALLDALE AVENUE FACULTY Eileen Hough, Chairman

ESTABLISHED JAN. 1, 1914

Torrance Herald

Published Semi-Weekly at Torrance, California on Thursday and Monday. Entered as second class matter Jan. 30, 1914, at Post Office, Torrance, California, under act of March 3, 1879.



1819 Gramercy Ave. FA 8-4000

KING WILLIAMS, Publisher

GLENN W. PFEL, General Mgr.

REID L. BUNDY, Managing Editor

Adjudicated a legal Newspaper by Superior Court, Los Angeles County, Adjudicated Decree No. 21879, March 23, 1927.

MEMBER CALIFORNIA NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

MEMBER NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

Subscription Rates: By Carrier, 30c a Month. Mail Subscriptions \$3.60 per year. Circulation office FA 8-4004, fax 8-4004.

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